



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Dec. 13, 2007

For immediate release

- 1. DNR Air Quality Bureau announces science contest for Iowa students**
- 2. Commercial manure applicators – sign up for training January 4**
- 3. January sign up for counties to evaluate animal confinement sites**
- 4. Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council meets December 17 in Davenport**
- 5. Burlington wastewater discharges to Mississippi River**
- 6. DNR enforcement actions**

DNR AIR QUALITY BUREAU ANNOUNCES SCIENCE CONTEST FOR IOWA STUDENTS

MEDIA CONTACT: Mindy Kralicek, Air Quality Information Specialist, (515) 281-7832

DES MOINES — Middle and high school students are asked to develop concepts to curb emissions of greenhouse gases in a science contest called “What Would You Do?” sponsored by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Air Quality Bureau. The hope is that participation in this contest will help middle and high school students gain a broader understanding of issues related to climate change.

“We believe that there’s a lot of interest in exploring new ideas that could result in curbing greenhouse gas emissions and we want to showcase the creative and critical thinking of our young people,” explains Mindy Kralicek, air quality information specialist and contest coordinator. “They aren’t as caught up with maintaining lifestyles or traditions and can often think outside of the box in ways adults do not. We expect to see a number of entries that will have us thinking, ‘Ah-ha!’”

Public, private and home-schooled students may enter as a science classroom, team or club. Concepts may be submitted as PowerPoint presentations, videos, drawings, posters, models, websites or a narrative. Ideas may address Iowa specifically, an industry such as automobiles or utilities, a product, a process, the nation or the world. The first 10 entries will receive five general admission tickets to the Science Center of Iowa (SCI), courtesy of SCI.

The top prize for each of three age groupings – 6th and 7th grades, 8th and 9th grades, and 10th, 11th and 12th grades – is an expense-paid, two-day trip to Springbrook Conservation Education Center, located in Springbrook State Park just north of Guthrie Center. At Springbrook, students gain first-hand experiences in conservation, water quality, landforms, and environmental interrelationships. Activities include archery, hiking, bird banding, kayaking, aquatic life investigation, and water quality study. Springbrook is operated by the DNR.

Contest judges are DNR environmental and energy staff with the air quality and energy bureaus. Entries will be awarded up to 100 points from these categories: application of scientific principles, environmental stewardship, creativity/originality, social awareness/sustainability and clarity in the presentation of their concept.

The public is invited to view the entries on the DNR website, where they will posted from Feb. 15 through the end of March 2008. The contest entry deadline is Feb. 11, 2008.

For more contest information visit the DNR web site at:
www.iowadnr.gov/air/citizen/climatechange/ or contact Mindy Kralicek, Air Quality Information Specialist at (515) 281-7832.

Written by Mindy Kralicek

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COMMERCIAL MANURE APPLICATORS – SIGN UP FOR TRAINING JANUARY 4

MEDIA CONTACT: Jeff Prier at (712) 262-4177.

DES MOINES – Annual training for approximately 1,625 commercial manure applicators is scheduled for Jan. 4 at many county Extension offices.

Commercial applicators and managers who attend the 9 a.m. to noon session will satisfy the training requirements to receive their annual certificates.

The training is offered by Iowa State University Extension via live satellite downlink in nearly 70 Extension offices in Iowa. Three additional sites for training are available at Extension offices in Boone County, Nebraska, and Chippewa and Grant counties in Wisconsin.

Minnesota applicators need to attend a workshop in Iowa as there will not be joint manure applicator training between Iowa and Minnesota in 2008.

Applicants who plan to attend should register with their local office and arrive before 9 a.m. to receive credit for the training. Commercial applicators must have a valid certificate to apply manure in Iowa.

“This is a good opportunity for training, because applicators can ask questions of the trainers and interact with each other,” said Jeff Prier, who coordinates the training program for the DNR.

“Those who miss this session must watch a video to become certified,” he added. “Or, they have the option of taking a test at a regional DNR field office.”

A list of participating Extension offices is available on the Extension Web site at <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>. Dry manure applicators can also find information on this Web site about five February workshops specifically designed to meet their needs.

The training session is free, but those applicators who want to be certified must pay a certification fee and an education fee. They must also work for a licensed commercial manure application service.

Prier encourages applicators to attend the Jan. 4 training because videotapes may not be available until late January or early February. A late fee is charged for all currently certified applicators who renew their certificate after the March 1 deadline.

More information on requirements for applicators can be found on the DNR Web site at <http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/appcert.html>.

Writer: Karen Grimes

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JANUARY SIGN UP FOR COUNTIES TO EVALUATE ANIMAL CONFINEMENT SITES

MEDIA CONTACT: Tammie Krausman at (515) 281-8382.

DES MOINES – For counties that are interested in evaluating proposed locations of confinement facilities that need a construction permit, the sign-up ends Jan. 31, 2008.

Counties must adopt and file a construction evaluation resolution in December 2007 or January 2008. Then the county board of supervisors must formally submit the resolution to the DNR between Jan. 1 and 31.

“This is an opportunity for counties to have input on site selection, the type of structures and manure management being proposed,” said Gene Tinker, coordinator of the DNR animal feeding section. “County supervisors can review and comment on the master matrix that producers submit.”

Producers in counties that file the resolutions must meet higher standards than other permitted sites. They must earn points on the master matrix by choosing a site and using practices that reduce impacts on the environment and the community.

Participating counties also have responsibilities which include:

- Evaluate the master matrix and make a recommendation to the DNR within 30 days of DNR’s receipt of the application.
- Verify separation distances claimed on the master matrix.
- If the county wants to conduct a site visit, send staff to accompany the DNR on the site survey.
- Make recommendations on the master matrix for all construction permit applications submitted in their county, or forfeit the right to evaluate sites until the next sign-up period.

Approximately 86 counties have filed resolutions each year since the master matrix went into effect in 2003.

Counties that have adopted a resolution should mail it to Tammie Krausman at the DNR, 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, IA 50319 or fax it to 515-281-6794. Sign-ups occur annually during the month of January.

Most confinement feeding operations that need to apply for a permit are subject to the matrix. For more information on which operations are affected, check the DNR Web site under animal feeding operations at <http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/matrix.html>.

Additional information for counties is available on the Iowa State Association of Counties Web site at <http://www.iowacounties.org/> under news: topics of interest.

Writer: Karen Grimes

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IOWA CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS DECEMBER 17 IN DAVENPORT

MEDIA CONTACT: Jason Marcel, Supervisor, Emissions Inventory (515) 281-4873

DES MOINES – Current actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reports from subcommittees are among the topics scheduled for the Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council (ICCAC)’s meeting on Monday, Dec. 17, 9 a.m. at the Rogalski Center at St.

Ambrose University in Davenport. Also slated is a discussion of the interim report addressing baseline and target years and reductions that ICCAC must present to Governor Culver and the General Assembly by Jan. 1, 2008.

Public comments will be taken at noon and at 3:20 p.m. in person or by telephone. Those who wish to speak should sign in upon arrival at the meeting. To attend the meeting by telephone, dial 1 (800) 704-9804. The public conference code number is 484 447#. When placed into teleconference, press *4 to increase or decrease the volume; press *6 to mute or un-mute your phone.

The complete agenda and background materials for this meeting may be viewed beginning Thursday afternoon at www.iaclimatechange.us. Anyone planning to attend this public meeting with special requirements for hearing or mobility should call (515) 242-5100 to have those addressed.

Written by Mindy Kralicek

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BURLINGTON WASTEWATER DISCHARGES TO MISSISSIPPI RIVER

MEDIA CONTACT: Russell Royce at (319) 653-2135.

BURLINGTON – The City of Burlington discharged untreated wastewater to the Mississippi River Tuesday following a 1.3 inch rainfall.

The discharge of about 53,000 gallons occurred in the Brooks Street section of the Hawkeye Sewer System from 3:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

The city has recently made a major commitment to update its combined sewer system. City officials plan to install storage tanks at this site in 2008 to prevent future overflows.

The Fort Madison and Keokuk water treatment plants were notified of the discharge.

Writer: Karen Grimes

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DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

MEDIA CONTACT: Jessie Brown at (515) 281-5131.

DES MOINES — The DNR has taken the following enforcement actions. The following are only briefs; please contact Jessie Brown of the DNR for more information at (515) 281-5131.

Enforcement actions, including copies of the original orders and contact information, are available on the DNR's Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/legal/eactions.html. The Web listing offers orders first taken in 2007 (amendments to orders issued prior to 2007 are not listed).

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Humboldt County

- Jon Matteson, of Thor, agreed in a consent order to have his wastewater operator certification placed on a 12 month probation period and to pay a \$750 penalty. Matteson is the wastewater operator in Thor in Humboldt County. The consent order is in regard to reporting requirement violations.
- The City of Thor agreed in a consent order to comply with its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit by timely submitting its monthly operation reports, and to pay a \$2,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to reporting requirement violations at its wastewater treatment facility.

Mitchell County

- Hufco, LLC, of DeKalb, Ill., agreed in a consent order to pay an \$8,500 penalty. The consent order is in regard to air quality, solid waste, and manure application and control violations at a livestock confinement operation in Mitchell County.

Ringgold County

- Doug Hymbaugh, of Mount Ayr, agreed in a consent order to properly dispose all solid waste and to pay a \$2,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to illegal disposal of construction and demolition waste at a site in Ringgold County.

Scott County

- Alcoa, Inc., of Riverdale, agreed in a consent order to submit air quality construction permit applications for any unpermitted sources at its Riverdale facility, to submit applications for any sources constructed in a manner not permitted by DNR, to comply with air quality construction permit requirements in the future, and to pay a \$2,000 penalty.

Shelby County

- Jack Knudson, of Irwin, agreed in a consent order to retain a certified groundwater professional, conduct a soil and groundwater underground storage tank (UST) closure investigation and report, conduct a tiered site assessment including soil and groundwater sampling, and pay a \$10,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to petroleum USTs in Irwin.

Consent Amendments

A consent amendment is issued in settlement of a previous administrative order or to amend a pre-existing consent order. A consent amendment indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Cedar County

- Ray Slach, of West Branch, agreed in a consent amendment to comply with minimum manure control requirements and to pay a \$2,500 penalty. This amends a 2003 administrative order regarding animal feeding operation violations.

Chickasaw County

- The City of Lawler agreed in a consent amendment to an extending a construction deadline for wastewater improvements. This amends a 2004 administrative order regarding wastewater violations.

Henry County

- The City of Mount Pleasant agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$500 penalty. This amends a 2002 administrative order regarding sewage sludge disposal requirements, including record keeping, reporting and disclosure requirements.

Jones County

- Jones County agreed in a consent amendment to begin construction of approved wastewater treatment facility upgrades by Oct. 1, 2007 and to complete construction by May 31, 2008. Jones County agreed to comply with all applicable effluent limitations and to pay stipulated penalties if deadlines are not met. This amends a 2006 administrative order regarding wastewater violations at the Edinburgh Manor wastewater treatment facility, which is operated by Jones County.

Kossuth County

- Kenneth Dahlhauser, of Whittemore, agreed in a consent amendment to comply with all minimum manure control requirements and commercial manure service obligations, and to pay a \$1,250 penalty. This amends a 2002 administrative order regarding animal feeding operation violations. This amendment was agreed upon in May.

Lyon County

- Jansma Cattle Co., Inc., of Rock Rapids, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$5,000 penalty and resolve other outstanding issues from an administrative order issued in 2004 regarding animal feeding operation violations.

Marion County

- Harvey Products, of Harvey, agreed in a consent amendment to meet with DNR officials at least once every two months during the re-building of its facility to

ensure compliance with applicable environmental statutes and rules, and to pay a \$5,000 penalty. This amends a 2004 administrative order regarding air quality violations.

Polk County

- Country Living Mobile Home Park, of Altoona, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$2,000 penalty. Country Living constructed a new wastewater treatment facility and properly abandoned the old wastewater lagoon as required by the original 2003 administrative order.

Pottawattamie County

- Honey Creek Campground, of Underwood, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$500 penalty. This amends a 2004 administrative order regarding wastewater violations.

Worth, Winneshiek Counties

- Iowa Ethanol, LLC d/b/a POET Biorefining, of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Reilly Construction Co., Inc., of Decorah, agreed in a consent amendment with the DNR to delete all references to Reilly Construction Co., Inc. as a responsible party for any of the violations addressed in a 2004 administrative order regarding stormwater violations at a facility in Hanlontown. POET Biorefining also agreed to pay an \$8,400 penalty.

Writer: Jessie Brown